

**Official Proceedings of the Washington Township Board of Trustees
October 4, 2010**

**Washington Township Center
30200 Town Center Road, Beecher, IL**

Supervisor Howard called the meeting to order at **7:03 p.m.** to pay bills for the month of September and transact any other business that may come before the Board of Trustees. Meeting agenda and guest sign-in sheet are attached.

Supervisor Howard led the Pledge of Allegiance and then asked for a moment of silence for the men and women serving in the United States Armed Forces and for those who gave the ultimate sacrifice for their country.

Roll call:

Present: Supervisor Robert Howard; **Trustees:** Elmer Becker, Dan Waterman, Ted Deery, Teresa Peterson **Absent:** None

Other Officials present:

Clerk Joe Burgess, Assessor Carol Ann Blume, Highway Commissioner Jerry Meyer and Will County Board Member John Anderson

Approval of the Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes Dated September 9, 2010:

Supervisor Howard asked if there were any corrections or additions to the September 9, 2010 board meeting minutes as presented. Being none, Howard asked for a motion to approve the minutes.

Motion:

Trustee Becker made a motion to approve the minutes of the September 9, 2010 Board of Trustees meeting as presented. Trustee Peterson seconded the motion. There was no discussion on the motion. Roll call vote as follows: Becker – yes, Peterson – yes, Waterman – yes, Howard – yes, Deery – yes. **Motion passed 5-0.**

Public Commentary:

Township resident George Willy voiced concerns that “people” do not understand there are no pollution control devices on aircraft and the associated pollution given off by jet engines is toxic, especially to children. He said the airport must be stopped and he was “glad” to see there was an anti-airport resolution on tonight’s meeting agenda.

Will County Board member John Anderson introduced himself to the audience and told them that he was always available to assist township residents if they had any questions or issues.

Will County Sheriff Sgt. Brian Hickey introduced himself to the board and said he was assigned to this area working the 3 PM to 11 PM shift. He gave out his work cell phone number and urged people to call him if they see or have any problems or concerns.

Reports

1. Road Commissioner – Commissioner Meyer reviewed his attached written report. In addition to his report, Meyer said he anticipated that Corning Road between State Line and Klemme Roads would be completely open for through traffic by the end of the week. The Will County police are still working diligently on speed control through Eagle Lake. Officers are enforcing the new 30 MPH speed limit through that area and many citations have been issued. The final ditch cutting for the year has started and the township will be cutting ditches from fence line to fence line.
2. Assessor – Assessor Carol Ann Blume reported that new construction in the township this year was approximately \$1.4 million.
3. Town Clerk – The township entered the “Washington Township Newsletter” and website in the Township Officials of Illinois (TOI) “Mighty Message” contest. The township has learned that both the newsletter and website have been chosen as the winners in the small township category. The township will be recognized for this accomplishment at the annual TOI Conference that takes place in early November. The next township event, “An Evening with Mark Twain” is scheduled for this Wednesday, October 6 at 7 pm at the Washington Township Center.
4. Washington Township Planning Commission (WTPC) – No report.
5. Supervisor’s Report – Supervisor Howard attended a meeting with the property owners along the proposed multipurpose (Vincennes) trail and said it was very positive. He recently accompanied / drove a group of seniors on a bus trip to Fair Oaks Dairy Farm in Indiana. The seniors had a good time and were able to see a working dairy farm. Supervisor Howard also attended a recent Village of Beecher board meeting and speaking as a homeowner in the village, suggested that the village consider constructing a dog park on an undeveloped lot. He said the village could build the park and would be able to recover the construction costs by charging fees to the users of the park. He also recommended that a petition could be circulated to see what type of interest residents would have in supporting a dog park. The village is taking his suggestion under consideration.
6. Transportation Report – Director Pat Peters reported that there were 232 trips during the month. Pat also gave the board a copy of the Pace audit which took place on September 23. The audit was based on township policies and drug and alcohol procedures and Peters said the results of the audit were very “positive”. The RTA will be performing an audit on October 13 and they will be focusing on the township’s recordkeeping practices. The township has been receiving calls from area seniors who are saying Southland Senior transportation services will not serve their transportation needs. The new Ford van is now in service and is being used two times a week and as a backup vehicle to the full size bus. The van is equipped with a wheel chair lift and only costs the township \$100 per month which includes all maintenance costs. Ms. Peters thanked Supervisor Howard for

volunteering to drive the van on senior trips including a recent bus trip to the Fair Oaks Dairy Farm.

Will County Board member John Anderson told the board that Will County has completed a paratransit study. He has been traveling around the county participating in discussions about transportation and said the Washington Township transportation program was repeatedly praised as a model program for all townships.

7. Foundation for a Green Community – Trustee Deery and Supervisor Howard attended a recent meeting regarding the proposed multipurpose recreational trail (Vincennes Trail). Deery commented that the meeting was very positive and there was good dialog between the township and the property owners who would be affected by the trail's final route. Deery said detailed trail plans need to be developed and included in the township's future plans before there are any final plans in place for the Illiana Expressway.
8. Community Building Report – No report.
9. Feed Our Own – Trustee Peterson read a written report from Director Laurie Summers. There were 46 meals delivered by volunteers last month. Angela Lisota RN has been trained to help with the intake process and deliver meals. Summers also has sent a letter to the National Honor Society coordinator at Crete Monee High School thanking and recognizing senior Haily Baranski for her 21.5 hours as a volunteer driver for the "Feed Our Own" program this past summer. Laurie is also planning a training session for the programs 17 volunteers that is tentatively scheduled on October 20.

Prior to Old Business, the Board heard a presentation from the University of Illinois Extension Program (Will County)

Diane Ross, Chairman of the Will County Extension Council told the board about the many programs offered through the extension services including 4H, commercial and agriculture programs, master gardening and natural resources programs. The extension programs, with the help of volunteers, serve about 40,000 people per year and people generally meet in community centers, churches and halls throughout the county. Ms. Ross explained that budget cuts have forced the Will County office to join with Grundy and Kankakee Counties and she introduced Beth LePlante, who is the director of the extension programs of Kankakee County and the interim director of the Will County program. The reorganization of the programs will result in one Director per unit and they receive funding from the University of IL plus state and federal agencies.

Ross also said that 4H is one of their offices most popular programs and she then introduced Laura Mills, an assistant leader to the 4H groups. Ms. Mills, who has been involved in 4H since she was a child, told the board about the many volunteer community services that 4H members perform and said they are also teaching citizenship and leadership. She said the Will County Prairie 4H group has 65 members and is the largest group in the state. The Prairie 4H group meets monthly at the Washington Township Community Building and is always open to new members.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. *Washington Township Employee Handbook* – Trustee Waterman reported that he is still reviewing the handbook and has no update at this time.
2. *Consideration and Approval of a Proposed “Resolution in Opposition to the Establishment of the South Suburban Airport”* – There were two different airport resolutions before the board. One presented by Washington Township resident John Dell Aquila and the other was prepared by Clerk Burgess and was based on Mr. Aquila’s resolution and other factors. Supervisor Howard recommended that this item be tabled and suggested that the attorneys at the upcoming Township Officials of IL convention review the resolution in November. Howard said the township should show “do diligence” regarding this issue and he did not want to add any liability to the township or it’s residents without first consulting with legal counsel.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. *Consideration and Approval of Planning Commission Recommendations* – There were no Planning Commission recommendations to be acted upon.
2. *2010 Tax Levy* – Clerk Burgess said that based on new construction being only \$1.4 million for the year and no increase in the 2010 extension limitation, the 2010 levy increases would most likely be under 3%. Based on these numbers, the township would not have to hold a Public Hearing regarding the levy. Assessor Blume reported that the townships current assessed value is now lower than the townships assessed value in 2008 and that this number will also have an impact on the levy.

Payment of Bills:

Road & Bridge

The final payment to Legacy Professionals, for completion of the township audit, has been processed. The bill was divided between the Township, Road District and Community Building based on their total of the extended levy. A \$31,000 payment to Emulsicoat was for road oil used for resurfacing a 1.5 mile section of Klemme Road.

MOTION: Trustee Waterman made a motion to authorize payment of all applicable payroll, bills, and appropriate transfers or debits for the Road & Bridge Account totaling **\$69,718.38**. Trustee Peterson seconded the motion. There was no discussion on the motion. Roll Call vote: Waterman – yes, Peterson – yes, Deery – yes, Howard – yes, Becker – ABSTAIN. **Motion passed 4-0.**

Town Account

The Board reviewed the bills as prepared and presented by Supervisor Howard and Clerk Burgess. A \$375 bill to HomePages was for a half-page ad in the upcoming HomePages local phone directory.

MOTION:

Trustee Becker made a motion to authorize payment of all applicable payroll, bills, debits and appropriate transfers as presented for the Town Account totaling **\$56,895.60**. Trustee Waterman seconded the motion. There was no discussion on the motion. Roll Call vote: Becker – yes, Waterman – yes, Peterson – yes, Deery –yes, Howard - yes. **Motion passed 5-0.**

Announcements:

1. Twenty-five residents attended Senior Movie Night on September 22
2. October 6 – An Evening with Mark Twain – 7:00 pm @ Washington Twp Center
3. October 23 – Senior “Fall Fling” Dance – 7 pm @ Cardinal Creek Golf Course

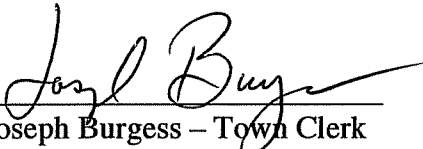
Upcoming Seminars and Meetings:

1. November 1, 2010 – Washington Township Board Meeting - 7:00 pm at the Washington Township Center.

Adjournment:

Being no other business or discussion, Trustee Deery made a motion to adjourn. Motion was seconded by Trustee Becker, and after being unanimously approved by voice vote, the Board Meeting adjourned at 8:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Joseph Burgess – Town Clerk

Approved by Board of Trustees 11/1/10

Washington Township

Jerry K. Meyer

Highway Commissioner

October 4, 2010

To the Board of Trustee's of Washington Township:

- Working on Corning road from State Line to Klemme making it a 20 foot road and all new ditches getting it ready for tar and chip in a couple of years. It should be open by the end of the week
- Hauling M..F.T. stone into the shop 75 Ton to go
- Patching is on going.
- Speed limit signs are up in the town of Eagle Lake 30 MPH. I talked to a officer out on Yates they know there is a problem just being there to catch them
- Weed cutting has started

If there are any questions please feel free to contact me at the office.

Jerry K. Meyer
Commissioner

